UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/50/427
13 September 1995

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fiftieth session
Item 28 of the provisional agenda*

THE SITUATION IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Letter dated 12 September 1995 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to present to you the attached letter dated 12 September 1995 from Dr. Haris Silajdžić, Prime Minister of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, addressed to you (see annex).

May I ask for your kind assistance in circulating the present letter and its annex as a document of the General Assembly under item 28 of the provisional agenda.

(Signed) Ivan Z. MISIĆ
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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ANNEX

Letter dated 12 September 1995 from the Prime Minister of Bosnia and Herzegovina addressed to the Secretary-General

On several occasions the Government of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina has turned to the Security Council and yourself personally, asking for the protection of the Bosniacs, Croats and other non-Serb population in Banja Luka and other places controlled by Serb terrorists.

You are aware of the fact that the basic human rights are violated in that region and that the people there are exposed to every kind of terror and persecution. From 14 August 1995 to this day, about 18,000 people, whose only fault is that they are not Serbs, have been expelled. The rest of the non-Serb population have been rounded up and taken to detention camps, where there have been many cases of killing and physical violence.

It is for this reason that we are turning to you again with the demand that you do everything in your power to protect the remaining non-Serb population in Banja Luka and other regions controlled by the Serbian terrorists.

It would be most important to send immediately as many official United Nations representatives/monitors as possible, whose presence and activities would give direct protection to the Bosniacs, Croats and other people threatened by the Serbian terror.

Registration of all the non-Serb population is of special importance so that mass killings and covering up of crimes may be prevented.

The situation is such that the United Nations and other international institutions must take urgent measures to prevent crimes such as those committed against the people of Srebrenica and Žepa.

(Signed) Dr. Haris SILAJDŽIĆ

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Distr.
GENERAL

A/50/428
13 September 1995

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fiftieth session
Item 84 of the provisional agenda*

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST

Revenues derived from Palestine refugees' properties

Report of the Secretary-General

1. The present report is submitted in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 49/35 F of 9 December 1994, entitled "Revenues derived from Palestine refugees' properties", the operative paragraphs of which read as follows:

"The General Assembly

"...

"1. Requests the Secretary-General to take all appropriate steps, in consultation with the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine, for the protection of Arab property, assets and property rights in Israel and to establish a fund for the receipt of income derived therefore, on behalf of the rightful owners;

"2. Calls once more upon Israel to render all facilities and assistance to the Secretary-General in the implementation of the present resolution;

"3. Calls upon the Governments of all the other Member States concerned to provide the Secretary-General with any pertinent information in their possession concerning Arab property, assets and property rights in Israel which would assist the Secretary-General in the implementation of the present resolution;

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"4. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session on the implementation of the present resolution."

2. On 13 April 1995, the Secretary-General transmitted to the Government of Israel the text of General Assembly resolutions 49/35 A to G of 9 December 1994, with the request that it inform him by 1 June 1995 of any steps it had taken or envisaged taking in implementation of the relevant provisions of the resolutions.

3. On 25 April 1995, the Secretary-General sent a note verbale to all other Member States, drawing their attention to the relevant provisions of resolutions 49/35 A to G, including paragraph 3 of resolution 49/35 F, and requesting information by 1 June 1995 concerning any action taken or envisaged in relation to their implementation.

4. A reply dated 8 June 1995 was received from Israel, covering various aspects of resolutions 49/35 A to G. The text reads as follows:

"Israel's position on these resolutions has been set forth in successive annual replies submitted to the Secretary-General in recent years, the latest of which being Israel's note verbale dated 27 July 1994. While it is true that the number of resolutions regarding UNRWA has been reduced in the past year from ten to seven, the context of these resolutions remains occupied with political issues irrelevant to the work for which UNRWA is responsible, and thus remains detached from the new reality. Accordingly, Israel has abstained on resolutions 49/35 A and D, and has voted against resolutions 49/35 C, E, F, G.

"It should be noted that the signature of the Declaration of Principles and the Agreement on the Gaza Strip and the Jericho Area has engendered further significant progress in the framework of the peace process. This includes the establishment of the Palestinian Authority, the signature, by Israel and the PLO, of the Agreement on Preparatory Transfer of Powers and Responsibilities on 29 August 1994 at Erez, and the continuing negotiations on further implementation of the Declaration of Principles.

"Israel believes that UNRWA can play an important role in promoting the social and economic advancement foreseen in the agreements between Israel and the PLO, and accordingly looks forward to continuing the cooperation and good working relationship with UNRWA.

"In light of the above, Israel considers it essential that the General Assembly consolidate the resolutions regarding UNRWA into one resolution directly related to the agency's humanitarian tasks. This would also be compatible with the necessity to rationalize the work of the General Assembly."